

Hip Hop in the 1980s-1990s

Hip-Hop History in the 1970s

Hip hop culture, music, and lifestyle began in the Bronx, NYC.

- The South Bronx was a poor neighborhood isolated from the rest of New York.
- Hip-hop pioneers like Afrika Bambaataa, Grandmaster Flash, and Grandmaster Caz started DJing at parties (first in the parks and later in clubs) across the Bronx.

Afrika Bambaataa, former leader of the Black Spades, one of the most well-known and violent gangs in NY, formed the Universal Zulu Nation, a hip-hop awareness group that organized events for kids, many of whom were former gang members like Bambaataa. The group was an alternative to gang activity for many young people.

In the 1980s, the hip-hop scene expanded and became part of mainstream music in the U.S..

FILM: "The Hip Hop Years" (Part II)

Open slideshow. Film is cued. You're beginning at the start & stopping at the 31:00 minute mark.

1. What impact did MTV have on hip hop in the mid-1980s?

2. What set Public Enemy apart from rappers before them?

Public Enemy, "Fight the Power"

Yet our best trained, best
educated, best equipped, best
prepared troops refuse to fight. As
a matter of fact, it's safe to say
that they would rather switch than
fight

1989 the number another summer
(get down)
Sound of the funky drummer
Music hitting your heart cause I
know you got soul
(Brothers and sisters, hey)
Listen if you're missing y'all
Swinging while I'm singing
Giving whatcha getting
Knowing what I know
While the Black bands sweating
And the rhythm rhymes rolling
Got to give us what we want
Gotta give us what we need
Our freedom of speech is freedom
or death
We got to fight the powers that be
Lemme hear you say
Fight the power

[Hook]
Fight the power

We've got to fight the powers that
be

As the rhythm designed to bounce
What counts is that the rhymes
Designed to fill your mind
Now that you've realized the
pride's arrived
We got to pump the stuff to make
us tough
From the heart
It's a start, a work of art
To revolutionize make a change
nothing's strange
People, people we are the same
No we're not the same
Cause we don't know the game
What we need is awareness, we
can't get careless
You say what is this?
My beloved let's get down to
business
Mental self defensive fitness
(Yo) bum rush the show
You gotta go for what you know
Make everybody see, in order to
fight the powers that be
Lemme hear you say
Fight the power

[Hook]
Elvis was a hero to most
But he never meant shit to me you
see
Straight up racist that sucker was
Simple and plain
Mother fuck him and John Wayne
Cause I'm Black and I'm proud
I'm ready and hyped plus I'm
amped
Most of my heroes don't appear
on no stamps
Sample a look back you look and
find
Nothing but rednecks for 400
years if you check
Don't worry be happy
Was a number one jam
Damn if I say it you can slap me
right here
(Get it) let's get this party started
right
Right on, c'mon
What we got to say
Power to the people no delay
To make everybody see
In order to fight the powers that
be

[Hook]

1. What references does the song make to black history/culture?
2. What is the message/tone of the song?

Then watch NWA's "Straight Outta Compton" video & answer the questions below.

N.W.A., "Straight Outta Compton"

You are now about to witness the strength of street knowledge

Straight outta Compton,
crazy motherfucker named Ice Cube
From the gang called Niggas Wit Attitudes
When I'm called off, I got a sawed-off
Squeeze the trigger and bodies are hauled off
You too boy if you fuck with me
The police are gonna have to come and get me
Off your ass, that's how I'm going out
For the punk motherfuckers that's showing out
Niggas start to mumble, they wanna rumble
Mix em and cook em in a pot like gumbo
Going off on the motherfucker like that
With a gat that's pointed at your ass
So give it up smooth
Ain't no telling when I'm down for a jack move
Here's a murder rap to keep y'all dancing
With a crime record like Charles Manson
AK-47 is the tool
Don't make me act a motherfucking fool
Me you can go toe to toe, no maybe
I'm knocking niggas out the box, daily
Yo weekly, monthly and yearly
Until them dumb motherfuckers see clearly
That I'm down with the capital C-P-T
Boy, you can't fuck with me
So when I'm in your neighborhood, you better duck
Cause Ice Cube is crazy as fuck
As I leave, believe I'm stomping
But when I come back boy, I'm coming straight outta
Compton

Yo Ren
(Whassup)
Tell em where you from

Straight outta Compton, another crazy ass nigga
More punks I smoke, yo my rep gets bigger
I'm a bad motherfucker and you know this
But the pussy-ass niggas won't show this
But I don't give a fuck, I'mma make my snaps
If not from the records, from jacking or craps
Just like burglary, the definition is jacking
And when I'm legally armed it's called packing
Shoot a motherfucker in a minute
I find a good piece of pussy and go up in it
So if you're at a show in the front row

I'mma call you a bitch or dirty-ass ho
You'll probably get mad like a bitch is supposed to
But that shows me slut, you're composed to
A crazy motherfucker from the street
Attitude legit cause I'm tearing up shit
MC Ren controls the automatic
For any dumb motherfucker that starts static
Not the right hand cause I'm the hand itself
Every time I pull an AK off the shelf
The security is maximum and that's a law
R-E-N spells Ren but I'm raw
See, cause I'm the motherfucking villain
The definition is clear, you're the witness of a killing
That's taking place without a clue
And once you're on the scope, your ass is through
Look, you might take it as a trip
But a nigga like Ren is on a gangsta tip
Straight outta Compton

Eazy is his name and the boy is coming...

...Straight outta Compton
Is a brother that'll smother your mother
And make your sister think I love her
Dangerous motherfucker raising hell
And if I ever get caught, I make bail
See I don't give a fuck, that's the problem
I see a motherfucking cop, I don't dodge him
But I'm smart, lay low, creep a while
And when I see a punk pass, I smile
To me it's kinda funny, the attitude showing a nigga driving
But don't know where the fuck he's going, just rolling
Looking for the one they call Eazy
But here's a flash, they'll never seize me
Ruthless, never seen like a shadow in the dark
Except when I unload
You see a spark and jump over hesitation
And hear the scream of the one who got the lead
penetration
Feel a little gust of wind and I'm jetting
But leave a memory no one'll be forgetting
So what about the bitch who got shot, fuck her
You think I give a damn about a bitch, I ain't a sucker
This is an autobiography of the E
And if you ever fuck with me
You'll get taken by a stupid dope brother who will smother
Word to the motherfucker, straight outta Compton

Damn, that shit was dope

1. How does the song reflect what was going on in Compton at the time?

2. What is the message/tone of the song?

2 new styles of rap emerged in the early 1990s, gangsta rap and socially-conscious hip hop. Define the 2 terms:

<u>Gangsta Rap</u>	<u>Socially Conscious Hip Hop</u>